

To allow a broadcast of a made-up, false, anti-Kerry PROPOGANDA film at this time - AFTER the Swift Vets (for LIES) have been discredited, AFTER we have learned of Karl Rove's log and clearly documented history of sleazy tactics, AFTER we have seen the result of one-sided extremist politics, AFTER we have seen our country sent to war based on false pretenses, AFTER we have been lied to by our own president (on many occasions) - is a serious mistake and would serve only to further erode our confidence in the media and in democracy itself.

Freedom of the press and freedom of expression are very important principles to support, however care must be taken not to include extremist propaganda in our broad view of free speech.

As we have all heard for years, Free Speech does not include the right to scream 'fire' in a crowded theater. Neither should we protect clearly, misleading propaganda in that protection.

Airing anti-candidate propaganda, filled with lies and innuendo at this time would be a SERIOUS breach of faith with the American public, and poses SERIOUS threat to democracy in

America.

It is especially onerous considering the political ties and bias of the network's management and the history of the right-wing FALSELY accusations attacking the Democratic candidate.

As a Vietnam war veteran, and the son of a WWII veteran and grandson of a WWI veteran, and with a cousin recently returned from Army duty in Iraq, I am concerned that our sacrifices in the name of democracy and freedom of choice would be eroded by this blatant take over of OUR airwaves by a right-wing propagandist group.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more

substantive news  
about issues that  
matter.

Sinclair's actions  
show why we need to  
strengthen media  
ownership rules, not  
weaken them. They  
show why the license  
renewal process  
needs to involve  
more than a returned  
postcard. Thank you.